

postponing the sales had excited the resentment of the army, he endeavored to throw the blame from himself to the commissioners, who had received his permission to proceed. Whatever cogent reasons might have operated afterwards, the intention of the law was plain and clear, that the sales should be made as speedily as possible; and as no ministerial officer could possibly be justified in dispensing with the law, it was his duty to apply to the executive—if the occasion required they would have conveyed the signature, or, if it appeared absolutely necessary, they would themselves have exercised the dispensing power, and depended on the rectitude of the measure for an indemnity of their conduct.

The ineffable disdain, with which I had attended to the arguments for keeping up the specifics, is not at all diminished by the Intendant's boast—it even marks for its object, every man who can applaud the wicked policy, by which a little money is saved to the state, at the expense of its creditors, the loss of its honour, the ruin of its credit, and the contempt of its laws. If however there is a majority of the people curled with narrow hearts and contracted minds, they are not altogether indebted to the Intendant for this boasted saving—when he was prevented from selling his tobacco for 16/8 upon some months credit, by the remonstrance of the executive, who did not conceive a sale upon long credit, when there was a prospect of a rising market, to be politic and wise.

The Intendant seems to claim a merit for inculcating the necessity of "easing off" the taxes of the present year, nor does he deny the effect it produced—here then he plainly obstructed the business, he was chosen to substitute whatever his private opinion might be, as an officer, he was bound to enforce the collection—his reasoning might have been proper to the assembly after making a fair trial of the practicability of levying the tax—but urged to "the community at large," it could only tend to encourage a remissness in the collectors, and to prevent such of the people, who were prepared, from discharging their tax; and the result of the whole has been the bringing little or no money into the treasury.

Were I disposed to dispute every point with the Intendant, I might deny that "he has done every thing in his power, to enforce the collection of arrearages," and appeal to that part of his first report, wherein he recommends the acceptance of bond and security, for arrearages—had this egregious plan been adopted, I have no doubt the "community at large" would have been well pleased, as there ever was, and ever will be, an aversion in the people from the payment of taxes—the approbation of "the community at large" is not therefore a competent proof of the rectitude of a measure, and the popularity, which flows from a man's actions, may be little superior to that, which is gained by the meanest adulation.

The Intendant cannot much longer prevent the people from feeling the burthen of taxation; and the delay can only make it fall with increased weight. Before the legislature violated their engagements by suspending the collection, they should have been fully satisfied of the people's inability to pay—there never was in this country a greater abundance of specie—it is true, very little is seen in circulation—persons inhabiting towns want money to purchase necessaries, and merchants cannot procure it to carry on their trade—hence arises the complaint of its scarcity, and though the quantity in the state should be doubled, the same want would be felt by the same classes of men. The farmers and planters, to whom it has been paid, have deposited it in their coffers, where alone they can think it secure. It is a melancholy truth, that the loss of public faith has involved with the ruin of private credit, and no confidence exists between man and man. It has been the invariable practice for every session of assembly to undo what was done by the last—there is nothing like stability or system, and it is very natural to consider the laws of little security to rights. Had government, for a short time past, bent every effort to restore public and private credit, had it determined to comply strictly with its engagements, and to enforce the execution of its laws, it would soon appear, that the act recommended by the Intendant was founded on an erroneous principle. Good policy demands a speedy collection of the tax, if it were only to draw forth the money, which is concealed in secret hoards, where it is of no use to the owner, and lost to society.

I admire the address you have displayed in attempting to raise up enemies against the Examiner among members of the assembly. You have made a long quotation from my address; but changed the language, and mangled the sense. I never meant to insinuate their actual acceptance of a bribe "to throw a veil on the errors of your administration." My aim was to guard them against the little arts and flattering attentions, by which designing men too often conciliate the favour of the best and wisest amongst us. If any gentleman, after reading my address, accepted his allowance, he must have been satisfied with the Intendant's verbal explanation—if he received it under an impression that it came from a fund, which the Intendant had no right to touch, I would make no scruple to exhibit him to his constituents, along with the Intendant, as unworthy of their trust and confidence.

I cannot comprehend so clearly as I wish, your exculpation from "the last and heaviest charge." It resembles the stammering of a man, suddenly charged, who is altogether at a loss for a defence. Let us examine every circumstance relative to the transaction.

The Intendant, by the act for his creation, is directed, immediately upon receipt, to bring all public money into the treasury, where it is to be subject to the orders of the governor and council. The assembly, indeed, violated this system, so far as to empower the Intendant to discharge the journal of accounts, out of the money received from general Smallwood, and of the money due from colonel Rawlings and major Willson. He was also directed to dispose of certain British property, and specifics, and to apportion the money among the officers and soldiers of the Maryland line—of the money arising from any other fund he had not the least authority or colour of law to dispose. In the beginning of last session, he was not prepared for paying off the journal of accounts, nor was he, till by virtue of his power as Intendant, he, with difficulty, prevailed on Mr. Dickenson to deliver him the money collected on the eastern shore by the 5/ tax—gentlemen of the as-

sembly were then immediately informed, the money was ready for them at the treasury—such a daring assumption of power, together with the obvious motives of his conduct, did not fail to excite indignation and clamour—he was, I believe, alarmed at what he had done, and adopted the most prudent methods for glossing the matter over. He delivered either money or bank notes to the treasurer, on behalf of Mr. Dickenson, as appears by a receipt of the 27th of May—on the same day was written and dated my first address; and little verfed as I am in the mystery of intrigue, I had no conception the Intendant would be able to give this turn to the transaction, that he only meant to exchange some bank notes, he had received from the funds appropriated to the journal of accounts, and that "the assembly were about passing a law, to empower the Intendant to pay this money to our line; and if it went into the treasury before either law or resolution should pass, probably it might be turned over to the continental receiver." This law, I have reason to believe, was brought in after the transaction, and will be reprobated by the very men it was intended to gratify. The 5/ tax had been given to congress; and the financier had calculated upon it; when he adjusted a plan for providing three months pay to the whole army—to cover the Intendant, an indignity and wrong was done to the congress and to Mr. Morris; but the officers of the line will have penetrated enough to perceive, that, had the Intendant acted as he ought, the 5 months pay might have been already received, and the other might in a little time be prepared; they must now probably be satisfied with part of the first.

If the Intendant had bank notes at the time he seized on the 5/ tax, and only wanted to exchange them for specie, the continental receiver's orders to exchange specie for notes; or if the assembly were "about passing the law," a short resolve, which the Intendant might have easily procured, would have been infinitely preferable to his exercising an illegal, arbitrary, power.

I know not what the Intendant means by claims and orders of Mr. Dickenson and Mr. McLaughlin; or how, with propriety, he could pay any orders except from persons on the journal, and those only from the particular funds. The governor and the council, in their address, complain, that for many months not more than £. 500 had been placed in the treasury—they draw orders on the treasury which cannot be satisfied—persons not on the journal have however been paid by the Intendant—let him reconcile deeds with professions, and let his fondest admirers believe that "he does not wish any public money to pass through his hands." It is possible, these payments might come from his private funds; and if they did, they demonstrate a degree of benevolence altogether uncommon! But take it either way—combine these circumstances with the rest of his conduct—and there is the strongest presumption, that he wishes to reduce "every officer in the government to a slavish dependence on his will and pleasure."

The Examiner feels himself under no obligation to disclose "that something to the public;" nor is it clear from his expression, that he knows what that something is. Something certainly did give "a turn to opinions," and the Intendant is better qualified than the Examiner to furnish the wished for explanation. Will he inform us with precision of that small battery of truth, he played off with such delectable success? To deal out dark hints about something, or any thing, or nothing, may sometimes make a kind of vague impression extremely favourable to the views of a crafty politician; but there is a wide difference between these and a delicate allusion to known facts, which generosity forbids us to mention.

I shall not gratify the insidious request of the Intendant, by naming a person "on the list who was not equal in reputation to the Examiner"—it is indifferent to me, whether he intended to offer incense to the assembly, or to depreciate the Examiner—it is the peculiar privilege of great men to sound their own praises; and the example of Tully or of the Intendant affords no sanction to an obscure person like the Examiner. I have always entertained a proper respect for the legislative body, and do not believe, that a majority of them ever erred from design—it is, however, of no moment on this occasion to examine the characters of persons on the list. In answer to the Intendant's question, "Were no jurymen paid during the session?" I can only maintain my position, that all the names on the list belonged to members of the assembly, and the purpose, for which the Intendant alleges he lodged the list, could not make it necessary for him to mention names—the treasurer's books would have made appear, "who were paid that had allowances on the journal, and who not."

I cannot pass unnoticed those parts of the Intendant's address, wherein he attempts to foster the mean prejudices conceived pretty generally against the civil list. If government be essential to society, those who faithfully execute its powers, are entitled to every reward, which a grateful people can afford—the "community at large" are, indeed, pardonable for imbibing those ideas, which are perpetually suggested by wicked artful men—they must long remember the pride, insolence, and domineering, of officers under the old government—in this state, all power flows directly or immediately from the people, and, if authority is properly defined and circumscribed, and the liberty of the press remains inviolate, there can be little reason to apprehend the insolence of office—to far from wishing to create ill-will between the public and its servants, an upright politician would endeavour to establish a perfect union and harmony—the slightest reflection must suggest, that a mutual confidence between the governing and the governed is the best security for the happiness of a people.

The Examiner is held out as one of those few, who, preferring their own interest to that of the community at large, would have had the Intendant sell his wheat and tobacco for less than half the value—if the Examiner is an officer of government, he may be one of those, who, for the service of many years, have received no more than the exercise of their talents, in a private employment, would have earned, without reproach, in one fourth of the time—he may be one of those, to whom government has repeatedly violated its engagements; and he may be reduced, by its injurious treatment, to want even the means of subsistence; but he will never supplicate the Intendant for relief—the Intendant will never permit him to receive it from public money which the Intendant has no right to dispose of. The Intendant can warmly defend members of the assembly,

on whom he pretends an imputation is cast, for receiving no more than what was their just due; and, at the same time, he meanly attempts to cast an odium on the whole civil list, for only wishing to receive what has been longer due. Let candour decide from what source arises this furious zeal for members of the assembly, and this blind prejudice against members of the civil list.

If the Intendant will permit the Examiner to conclude with one boastful expression, it is this—The Examiner conceives his known capacity and spirit of independence to be at least worthy the emulation of the Intendant.

ANNAPOLIS, June 7, 1783.

Just imported from France and Portugal, by the brig Marquis de la Fayette, and to be sold in Alexandria, on reasonable terms, for cash, tobacco, or flour, by M. Terraffon, at the store of M. Perrin,

- MILL-STONES. Salt.
- Port wine, first quality.
- Red Lisbon wine, first quality.
- White dry Lisbon.
- White Carcavelos.
- Dry Madeira.
- Red and white wine vinegar.
- Best sweet oil.
- Red and yellow ochre, mineral for painting.
- Portugal lemons.
- Almons, by the bag.
- China ware.
- Bottle corks.
- Fine green tea, congo, camphou, tonckay, & fanto.
- East India pepper.
- Sarsaparilla.
- Panes of glass for windows.
- Affortment of looking-glasses with gilt frames and in acajou wood for apartments and toilets.
- Affortment of candlesticks and sconces plated with gold and silver.
- Affortment of andirons, tongs and shovels, likewise plated.
- Quadrille boxes.
- Affortment of glass ware, large and small glasses
- and tumblers, salt-sellers, carafons, cructs for oil and vinegar.
- Small nails and sprigs.
- Curtain rings.
- Wire, brass wire.
- Painted paper for tapestry.
- Writing paper.
- Snuff and dainties boxes.
- Plated and gilt buttons, yellow and white, of various patterns.
- Sealing wax.
- Mens, womens and boys hats.
- A variety of gallant fans.
- Pins.
- Hair-pins set with diamonds.
- Gaufes, gauze aprons & handkerchiefs.
- An assortment of ribbands.
- Narrow and broad lace.
- Feathers and flowers for drefs.
- Calicoes.
- Laval & Britannia linens.
- Linen handkerchiefs of various patterns.
- Lawns.
- Check linen.
- Wove and knit thread stockings.
- Camblets and prunellas.
- Thread.
- Shawls, muslins, & other articles.

St. Mary's, June 2, 1783.

I DO forewarn all persons from purchasing part of a tract of land lying in St. Mary's county, called Hanover, now in the possession of a certain Edward Cole, who is the heir at law of Robert Cole, late of St. Mary's county, deceased, as I have a bond from the said Robert Cole for the conveyance of the said land to me, and have filed a bill in the court of chancery against the said Edward Cole, to compel him to convey the said land.

JOSEPH FENWICK.

Annapolis, June 16, 1783.

ALL persons indebted to Sarah Brice, late of this city, deceased, are requested to pay the interest due on their bonds, or renew them, and those who have claims against her estate, are desired to send them in legally proved that they may be settled.

JAMES BRICE, executor.

TEN POUNDS REWARD.

June 17, 1783.

RAN away from the subscriber, living in Montgomery county, near the court-house, on the 16th of this instant, a likely mulatto slave named BASIL, and it is probable will endeavour to pass by the name of BASIL RUSSELL, as a free man; he is about thirty years of age, and about five feet seven or eight inches high, of a very fair complexion, with gray eyes, short curly reddish coloured hair, and appears to be growing bald; has a scar on his right cheek just below his ear, and another on his nose, both of which he received by a knife, and are very plain; had on and took with him, an old brown cloth coat, one linen ditto, two waistcoats, two pair of summer breeches, one pair of leather ditto, one pair of country fulled cloth ditto of a light colour, one pair of white yarn stockings, two pair of thread or cotton ditto, a pair of good shoes and black tin buckles, a pair of boot legs, which he has ripped down the legs and laces up in imitation of spatter-dashes. It is expected he will make for Annapolis, as his mother lives there with Mr. George Mann, and will endeavour to cross the bay, or get to Baltimore, and there get on board of some vessel. All masters of vessels are earnestly requested, should such an one endeavour to ship himself on board any of their vessels, to have him apprehended and put in gaol. Whoever takes up the said slave and secures him in any gaol, shall receive three pounds reward, if taken sixty miles from home five pounds, and if one hundred miles the above reward, paid by ALLEN BOWIE, jun.